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The humble  
**P E T I T I O N**  
Of the  
Lords and Commons assembled  
in P A R L I A M E N T,  
Presented to His M A J E S T I E  
at Y O R K, 18. April.  
Concerning His Message lately  
sent unto them, touching His  
Resolution of going  
into *Ireland*.  
With His Majesties Answer  
thereunto.



Y O R K:  
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer  
to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And  
by the Affignes of JOHN BILL.

1642.



TO THE KINGS  
*MOST EXCELLENT*  
MAJESTIE.

The humble Petition of the Lords and  
Commons Assembled in  
Parliament.

*May it please your Majesty,*

Our Majesties most loyall and  
faithfull Subjects, the Lords  
and Commons in Parliament,  
have duely considered the  
Message received from Your Majestie,  
concerning Your purpose of going into  
*Ireland* in your own Person, to prosecute  
the War there, with the Bodies of Your  
English Subiects, Leavied, Transported,  
and Maintained at their charge, which  
You are pleased to propound to us, not as  
a matter wherein Your Majestie desires

the advice of Your Parliament, but as already firmly resolved on, and forthwith to be put in execution, by granting out Comissions for the levying of two thousand Foot and two hundred Horse for a Guard for Your Person, when You shall come into that Kingdom: Wherein we cannot choose, but with all reverence and humility to Your Maestie observe, that You have declined your great Counsell, the Parliament, and varied from the usuall course of Your Royall Predecessors, That a businesse of so great importance concerning the Peace & Safety of all your Subiects, and wherein they have a speciall interest, by Your Maesties Promise, and by those great sums which they have disbursed, and for which they stand ingaged, should be concluded and undertaken without their advice. Whereupon we hold it our duty to declare, That if at this time Your Maestie shall go into *Ireland*, You will very much endanger the Safety of your Royall Person and Kingdoms, and of all other States professing the Protestant

stant Religion in Christendom, and make way to the execution of that cruell and bloody designe of the Papists, every where to root out and destroy the Reformed Religion, as the Irish Papists have, in a great part, already effected in that Kingdom, and in all likelihood would quickly be attempted in other places, if the consideration of the strength and union of the two Nations of *England* and *Scotland* did not much hinder and discourage the execution of any such designe: And that we may manifest to your Maiestie the danger and misery which such a journey and enterprise would produce, we present to your Maiestie the Reasons of this our humble opinion and advice:

1. Your Royall Person will be subiect, not onely to the casualty of War, but to secret Practises and Conspiracies; especially your Maiestie continuing your Profession to maintain the Protestant Religion in that Kingdom, which the Papists are generally bound by their Vow to extirpate.

2. It will exceedingly encourage the Rebels, who do generally profess and declare, That your Maiestie doth favour and allow their proceedings, and that this Insurrection was undertaken by the Warrant of your Commission: and it will make good their expectation of great advantage by your Maiesties presence at this time of so much distraction in this Kingdom, whereby they may hope we shall be disabled to supply the War there, especially there appearing lesse necessity of your Maiesties journey at this time, by reason of the manifold Successes which God hath given against them.

3. It will much hinder and impair the means whereby this War is to be supported, and increase the charge of it, and in both these respects make it more insupportable to your Subjects: And this we can confidently affirm, because many of the Adventurers, who have already subscribed, do, upon the knowledge of your Maiesties intention, declare their resolution not to pay in their Money, and others very

very willing to have subscribed, do now profess the contrary.

4 Your Maiesties absence must necessarily very much interrupt the proceedings of Parliament, and deprive your Subjects of the benefit of those further Acts of Grace and Justice which we shall humbly expect from your Maiestie, for the establishing of a perfect Union and mutual Confidence betwixt your Maiestie and your people, and procuring and confirming the prosperity and happiness of both.

5 It will exceedingly increase the Jealousies and Fears of your People, and render their doubts more probable of some Force intended by some evill Counsels neer your Maiestie, in opposition of the Parliament, and favour of the malignant Party of this Kingdom.

6 It will bereave your Parliament of that advantage whereby they were induced to undertake this War, upon your Maiesties promise that it should be managed by their Advice: which cannot be done, if your Maiestie, contrary to their

Counsels, shall undertake to order and govern it in your own Person.

Upon which, and divers other Reasons, we have resolved, by the full and concurring agreement of both Houses, That we cannot, with discharge of our Duty, consent to any Leavies or raising of Souldiers to be made by your Maiesty for this your intended Expedition into *Ireland*, or to the payment of any Armie or Souldiers there, but such as shall be employed and governed according to our advice and direction : And, that if such Leavies shall be made by any Commission of your Maiestie, not agreed to by both Houses of Parliament, we shall be forced to interpret the same to be raised to the terroure of your people, and disturbance of the publique peace, and hold our selves bound, by the Laws of the Kingdom, to apply the Authority of Parliament to suppress the same.

And we do further most humbly declare, That if your Maiestie shall, by ill counsell, be perswaded to go contrary to this

this Advice of your Parliament ( which we hope your Maiestie will not ) we do not, in that case, hold our selves bound to submit to any Commissioners which your Majestie shall chuse, but do resolve to preserve and govern the Kingdom by the Counsell and Advice of Parliament, for your Maiestie and your Posterity, according to our Allegiance and the Law of the Land.

Wherefore, we do most humbly pray, and advise your Maiestie to desist from this your intended passage into *Ireland*, and from all preparation of Men and Arms tending thereto, and to leave the managing of that War to your Parliament, according to your Majesties promise made unto us, and your Royall Commission granted under your great Seal of *England*, by advice of both Houses: In prosecution whereof, by Gods blessing, we have already made a prosperous entrance by many Defeats of the Rebels, whereby they are much weakened and disheartened, and have no probable means of sub-

stance, if our proceedings shall not be interrupted by this interposition of your Majesties Journey: But that we may hope, upon good grounds, that within a short time, without hazard of your Majesties Person, and so much dangerous confusion to your Kingdoms, which must needs ensue if you should proceed in this Resolution, we shall be enabled fully to vindicate your Majesties Rights and Authority in that Kingdom, and punish those horrible outragious Cruelties which have been committed in the murthering and spoiling so many of your Subjects, and bring that Realm to such a condition, as may be much for the advantage of your Majestie and this Crown, the honour of your Government, and contentment of your people. For the better and more speedy effecting wherof, we do again renew our humble desires of your return to your Parliament, and that You will please to reject all Councils and apprehensions which may any way derogate from that faithfulness and allegiance

( 9 )

legiance; which in truth and sincerity  
we have alwayes born and profest to  
your Maestie, and shall ever make  
good, to the utmost, with  
our Lives and  
Fortunes.

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B 3

His

DISA ET MOY DROIT

(2)  
victoribus datus est. Hoc est. Vincimus  
et gloriam datus est. modicum. vnde  
victoribus datus est. et gloriam datus  
est. Romani dicitur. oratio. et  
victoribus datus est. et gloriam datus



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## His Majesties Answer to the aforesaid Petition.

**W**e are so troubled and astonished to finde the unexpected Reception and Oft-understanding of Our Message of the eighth of Aprill, concerning Our Irish Journey, That, being so much disappointed of the Approbation and Thanks we looked for to that Declaration, we have great cause to doubt, whether it be in Our power to say, or do any thing which shall not fall within the like Interpretation: But, as we have in that Message called God to Witnesse the sincerity of the profession of Our onely Ends for the undertaking that Journey,

Journey, so we must appeal to all Our good Subjects, and the whole world, whether the Reasons al- leadged against that journey, be of weight to satisfie Our Understanding, or the Counsell presented, to di- swade Us from it, be full of that Duty as is like to prevail over Our Affections.

For Our resolving of so great a Businesse without the Advice of Our Parliament, we must remem- ber you, how often, by Our Mesa- ges, we made the same offer, if you should advise Us thereunto; to which you never gave us the least Answer; but in your late De- claration told Us, That ye Were not to be satisfied with words: So that we had reason to conceive, you rather avoided (out of regard to Our person) to give vs counsell to run that hazard, then that you dis- approved the Inclination. And what greater Comfort or Security

can

can the Protestants of Christendom receive, then by seeing a Protestant King venture and engage his Person for the defence of that Profession, and the suppression of Popery; to which we solemnly protested in that Message, never to grant a Toleration, upon what pretence soever, or an Abolition of any of the Laws there in force against the Professors of it. And when we consider the great Calamities, and unheard of Cruelties our poor Protestant Subjects in that Kingdom have undergone, for the space of neer, or full six moneths, The growth and encrease of the strength of those barbarous Rebels, and the evident probability of foraign Supplies (if they are not speedily suppressed) The very slow Succours hitherto sent them from hence, That the Officers of severall Regiments (who have long since been allowed entertainment from you for that service)

have not raised any supply or suc-  
cour for that Kingdom, That ma-  
ny Troops of Horse have long lien  
near Chester untransported, That  
the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland  
(on whom we relied principally for  
the conduct and managing of Af-  
fairs there) is still in this King-  
dom, notwithstanding Our earnest-  
nesse expressed, That he should re-  
pair to his command; And when  
we consider the many and great  
scandals raised upon Our Self, by  
report of the Rebels, and not suffi-  
ciently discountenanced here, not-  
withstanding so many Professions  
of Ours, And had seen a book lately  
printed by the Order of the House of  
**Commons**, entituled, A Remon-  
strance of divers remarkable passages con-  
cerning the Church and Kingdom of Ire-  
land, Wherein some Examinations  
are set down, which (how improba-  
ble or impossible soever) may make  
an impression in the minds of many  
of

of Our weak Subjects; And lastly, When we duly Weigh the dishonour which will perpetually lie upon this Kingdom, if full and speedy relief be not dispatched thither, we could, nor cannot think of a better way to discharge Our duty to Almighty God, for the defence of the true Protestant Profession, or to manifest Our affection to Our three Kingdoms, for their preservation, then by engaging Our Person in this Expedition, as many of Our Royall Progenitors have done, even in foreign parts, upon causes of lesse importance and pietie, With great honour to themselves, and advantage to this Kingdom; And therefore we expected at least thanks for such Our Inclination. For the danger of Our Person, we conceive it necessary and worthy of a King, to venture His Life to preserve His Kingdom: Neither can it be imagined, That we will sit

still, and suffer Our Kingdoms to be lost, and Our good Protestant Subjects to be massacred, without exposing Our own Person to the utmost hazard for their Relief and Preservation. Our life, when it was most pleasant, being nothing so precious to Us, as it is, and shall be to govern and preserve Our People With Honour and Justice.

For any encouragement to the Rebels, because of the Reports they raised; We cannot conceive that the Rebels are capable of a greater terror, then by the presence of their lawfull King, in the head of an Army to chastize them. Besides, it will be an unspeakable advantage to them, if any Reports of theirs could hinder Us from doing any thing which were fit for Us to doe, if such Reports Were not raised: This would quickly teach them, in this jealous Age, to prevent, by such Reports, any other Persons coming against them.

them, whom they had no minde  
should be so employed.

We marvell that the Adventu-  
ters (whose advantage was a prin-  
cipall motiue, next the reason before  
mentioned, to Us) should so much  
mistake Our purpose, whose In-  
terest, We conceive, must be much  
improved by the Expedition, We  
hope, by Gods blessing, to use in this  
service: This being the most pro-  
bable way for the speedy conquest of  
the Rebels. Their Lands are suffi-  
ciently secured by Act of Parlia-  
ment.

We think not Our Self kindly  
used, that the addition of so few men  
to your Levies (for a Guard to  
Our Person in Ireland) should be  
thought fit for your refusall: And  
much more, That having used so  
many Cautions in that Message,  
both in the smalnesse of the Num-  
ber, In Our having raised none un-  
till your Answer, In their being to

be raised onely neer their place of  
shipping, In their being there to be  
armed, and that not till they were  
ready to be shipp'd, In the provisi-  
on by the Darts that none of them  
should be Papists (all which appears  
sufficient to destroy all grounds of  
Jealousie of any force intended by  
them in Opposition to the Parlia-  
ment, or favour to any malignant  
Party) any suspition should not-  
withstanding be grounded upon it.

Neither can it be vnderstood,  
That when we recommended the  
managing of that Warre to you,  
that we intended to exclude Our  
Self, or not to be concerned in your  
Councells, that if we found any  
Expedient (which in Our Consci-  
ence or Understanding we thought  
necessary for that great work) we  
mught not put it in practice. We look  
upon you as Our great Councell,  
whose Advice we alwayes have  
and will (with great regard and de-  
liberation)

liberation) Weigh and consider: But we look upon Our Self, as neither deprived of Our Understanding, or de vested of any Right we had, if there were no Parliament sitting. we cal'd you together by Our own Writ and Authoritie (Without which you could not have met) to give Us faithfull Counsell about Our great Affairs, but we resigned not up Our own Interest and Freedom: we never subjected Our Self to your absolute determination: We have alwayes Weighed your Counsels, as proceeding from a Body intrusted by Us; and when we have disented from you, we have returned you the Reasons, which have prevailed with Our Conscience and Understanding, with that Candor as a Prince should use towards his Subjects, and that Affection which a Father can expresse to his Children: what Application hath been used to rectifie Our Understanding

derstanding by Reasons, or what Motives have been given to per-  
suade Our Affections, we leave  
all the world to judge: And then  
we must tell you, howsoever a ma-  
jor part may binde you in matter  
of Opinion, we hold Our Self  
(and we are sure the Law, and the  
Constitution of the Kingdom hath  
alwayes held the same) as free to  
dissent (till Our Reason be convin-  
ced for the generall good) as if you  
delivered no Opinion.

For Our Journey it self; The  
Circumstances of your Petition are  
such, as we know not well what  
Answer to return, or whether we  
were best to give any: That part  
which pretends to carry reason with  
it, doth no way satisfie Us: The  
other, which is rather Representa-  
tion and Menace, then Advice, can-  
not stagger Us: Our Answer  
therefore is, That we shall be ve-  
ry glad to finde the Work of Iceland  
so

so easie, as you seem to think it,  
 which did not so appear by any thing  
 known to Us, When we sent Our  
 Message : And though we will  
 never refuse, or be unwilling to ven-  
 ture Our Person, for the good and  
 safety of Our People, we are not  
 so weary of Our Life, as to ha-  
 zard it impertinently : And there-  
 fore, since you seem to have recei-  
 ved Advertisements, of some late  
 and great Successes in that King-  
 dom, we will stay some time to see  
 the event of those, and not pursue  
 this Resolution, till we have given  
 you a second notice : But if we finde  
 the miserable condition of Our poor  
 Subjects of that Kingdom, be not  
 speedily relieved, we will (With  
 Gods assistance) visit them with  
 Succours, as Our particular Cre-  
 dit and Interest can supply Us  
 with, if you refuse to joyn with  
 Us : And we doubt not, but the  
 Levies we shall make (in which

we will observe punctually the former, and all other Cautions, as may best prevent all Fears and Jealousies, and to use no power but what is legal will be so much to the satisfaction of Our Subjects, as no person will dare presume to resist Our Commands, and if they should, at their perils. In the meantime, we hope, Our forwardness so remarkable to that Service, shall be notorious to all the world, and that all Scandals laid on Us in that busynesse shall be clearly wiped away.

We were so carefull that Our Journey into Ireland should not interrupt the proceedings of Parliament, nor deprive Our Subjects of any Acts of Justice, or farther Acts of Grace for the reall benefit of Our people, that we made a free offer of leaving such power behinde, as should not only be necessary for the peace and Safety of the Kingdom, but

but fully provide for the happy pro-  
gress of the Parliament. And there-  
fore we cannot but wonder, since  
such power hath been alwayes left  
here, by Commission, for the Go-  
vernment of this Kingdom, when  
Our Progenitors have been out  
of the same, during the setting of  
Parliaments; and since your selves  
desired that such a power might be  
left here by Us, at Our last going  
into Scotland: what Law of the  
Land have you now found to di-  
spence with you from submitting to  
such Authority, legally derived  
from Us in Our absence, and so in-  
able you to govern this Kingdom  
by your own mere Authority?

For Our return towards London,  
we have given you so full an An-  
swer in Our late Declaration, & in  
Answer to your Petition presented  
to Us the 26. of March last, that we  
know not what to adde. If you will  
not provide for Our security with

you, nor agree to remobe to another place, where there may not be the same danger to Us, we expected, that (since we have been so particuar in the Causes and Grounds of Our Fears) you should have sent Us word that you had published such Declarations against future tumults, and unlawfull Assemblies, and taken such course for the suppressing of seditious Sermons and Pamphlets, that Our Fears of that kinde might be laid aside, before you should presse Our return.

To conclude, we could wish that you would (with the same strictnesse and severitly) weigh and examine your Messages and Expressions to Us, as you do those ye receive from Us, for we are very confident, that if you examine Our Rights and Priviledges, by what Our Predecessors have enjoyed, and your own Addresses by the usuall courses

courses of your Ancestors, you will finde many exceptions in this Petition, Warranted onely by your own Authority: Which indeed we forbear to take notice of, or to give Answer to, lest we should be tempted (in a just indignation) to expresse a greater Passion then we are yet willing to put on: God in his good time, we hope, will so inform the hearts of all Our Subjects, that we shall recover from the mischief and danger of this disempire. On whose good pleasure we will wait with all patience and humility.

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FINIS.

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